

1.(previously presented) A system for remote printing, comprising:

a local computer having at least one document stored thereon, said document being associated with at least one native data format, said format being other than a page descriptor format, said local computer adapted for accepting a print request associated with said document;

a remote printer; and

a remote computer, associated with said remote printer and adapted for receiving said print request and, in response to said receiving of said print request, automatically causing said at least one document to be printed on said remote printer;

wherein said at least one native data format of said document is maintained in said document printed by said remote computer on said remote printer.

2.(previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a relay computer, configured and adapted to:

receive said print request from said local computer; and

send said print request to said remote computer.

3.(previously presented) The system of claim 2, wherein said remote computer:

periodically polls said relay computer to determine whether one or more of said print requests intended for said remote printer are waiting to be sent; and

if said one or more print requests are waiting to be sent, retrieving said print requests, and printing the documents associated with said print request on said remote printer.

4.(withdrawn) A system, comprising:

a network maintaining an ordered list comprising at least one local printer and at least one remote printer; and

a local computer, connectable to said at least one local printer, and in communication with said at least one remote printer via said network, said local computer adapted to accept a request to print a document;

in response to said accepting, detecting whether the first local printer on said ordered list is available to print said document;

in response to said detecting indicating that said first local printer is not available, successively detecting whether subsequent local printers on said ordered list are available to print said document;

in response to said detecting indicating that no local printer is available, successively detecting whether subsequent remote printers on said ordered list are available to print said document; and

in response to said detecting indicating that a remote printer is available, printing said document on said remote printer

5.(withdrawn) The system of claim 4, wherein said at least one local printer is directly connected to said local computer.

6.(withdrawn) The system of claim 4, wherein said at least one local printer is connected to said local computer through a local-area network.

7.(withdrawn) The system of claim 4, further comprising a remote computer in communication with said local computer; and

wherein said at least one remote printer is connectable to said local computer through said remote computer.

8.(withdrawn) The system of claim 7, wherein said at least one remote printer is directly connected to said remote computer.

9.(withdrawn) The system of claim 4, wherein said list further comprises printer identifier information for at least one printer on said list.

10.(withdrawn) The system of claim 4, wherein said list further comprises a group identifier for at least one of said printers on said list.

11.(withdrawn) A method for printing a document, comprising the steps of:
receiving from a source computer a request to print a document;
accepting polling signals from a plurality of destination computers, each of said destination computers being associated with at least one printer appearing on an ordered list of printers;

responding to said polling signal by sending said print request to said destination computer associated with the first printer from said ordered list that is available for printing said document;

receiving a print result signal from said destination computer; and

sending said print result signal to said source computer.

12.(withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein said print request comprises document data and printing parameters.

13.(withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein said print request comprises document data in a format not directly printable by said printer.

14.(withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein said format is a word processing application data format.

15.(withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein said format is a spreadsheet application data format.

16.(withdrawn) A method for printing a document, comprising the step of:
receiving from a source computer a request to print a document;
detecting printer-enabled signals each associated with one of a plurality of remote printers appearing on an ordered list of printers; and
in response to said detecting, sending said print request to said remote printer that has the highest priority on said ordered list of said remote printers from which said printer-enabled signals are associated.

17.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein said receiving, detecting, and sending are performed by a relay server.

18.(withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein:

said enabling signal is a polling signal detected from a destination computer; and
said sending comprises transmitting said print request to said destination computer for
printing.

19.(withdrawn) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
receiving a print result signal from said destination computer; and
sending said print result signal to said source computer.

20.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein said print request comprises
printable data and envelope data.

21.(withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said envelope data comprises
document type information.

22.(withdrawn) The method of claim 20, wherein said envelope data comprises
authentication information.

23.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein said remote printer is selected from
a plurality of remote printers before said receiving.

24.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein said remote printer is selected from
a plurality of remote printers after said receiving.

25.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein:

said print request is originated by a user associated with a user identifier; and
said remote printer is selected from a plurality of remote printers based on said user identifier.

26.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein:
said source computer has a network address; and
said remote printer is selected from a plurality of remote printers based on said network address.

27.(withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
exposing a user interface to a user at said source computer;
displaying a list of available remote printers through said user interface;
selecting an available remote printer by said user through said user interface; and
transmitting said selection with the print request.

28.(previously presented) A system for remote printing, comprising:
a local computer having at least one document stored thereon, said document being in a native data format said format being other than a page descriptor format;
a remote printer which receives data in a format other than said native data format; and
a remote computer coupled to said local computer and coupled to and associated with said remote printer to receive said at least one document and to print said at least one document;

wherein said local computer provides said at least one document in said native data format, said remote computer receives said at least one document in said native data format and said remote computer prints said at least one document on said remote printer.

29.(previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said remote printer is directly connected to said remote computer.

30.(previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said remote printer is coupled to said remote computer through a network.

31.(previously presented) The system of claim 28, further comprising:
a relay computer coupled to said local computer and said remote computer to receive said at least one document in said first format from said local computer and provide said at least one document in said first format to said remote computer.

32. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the user of said local computer is authenticated prior to said at least one document being printed on said remote printer.

33.(previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein the user of said local computer is authenticated prior to said at least one document being printed on said remote printer.

34.(previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said at least one document can be in one of a plurality of formats, wherein said remote computer operates with said

remote printer for each of said plurality of formats, and wherein said remote printer receives data in a format different than any of said plurality of formats.

35.(previously presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said local computer and said remote computer each include an application, said application on said local computer generating said at least one document and said application on said remote computer printing said at least one document on said remote printer.

36.(previously presented) A method for remote printing of a document from a local computer in a first format associated with an application by which said document is maintained by a remote computer using a remote printer which receives data in a format different than said first format comprising the steps of:

providing said document from said local computer in said first format;
receiving said document at said remote computer in said first format; and
said remote computer printing said document on said remote printer.

37.(previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said remote printer is directly connected to said remote computer.

38.(previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said remote printer is coupled to said remote computer through a network.

39.(previously presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

receiving said document at a relay computer from said local computer in said first format and providing said document in said first format from said relay computer to said remote computer.

40.(previously presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

authenticating the user of said local computer prior to said document being printed on said remote printer.

41.(previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said document is in one of a plurality of formats, wherein said remote computer operates with said remote printer for each of said plurality of formats, and wherein said remote printer receives data in a format different than any of said plurality of formats.